

**NEWS RELEASE****Potato Summary  
September 20, 2002****FINAL 2001 POTATO SUMMARY****North Dakota**

Final production estimates for the 2001 potato crop totaled 26.4 million hundredweight (cwt), down 2 percent from the 2000 crop of 27.0 million cwt, according to the North Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service. Planted acres for 2001 totaled 118,000, down 6,000 acres from the previous year. Harvested acres, at 110,000, were unchanged from 2000. Yield for all potatoes averaged 240 cwt per acre in 2001, down from 245 cwt. in 2000, but unchanged from 1999. Irrigated potato yields averaged 375 cwt, unchanged from 2000.

The value of potatoes sold from the 2001 crop, at \$133 million, was up 4 percent from the 2000 crop. The marketing year average price was \$6.00 per cwt, compared to \$5.45 for the 2000 crop and \$5.60 for the 1999 crop.

Sales from the 2001 potato crop totaled 22.1 million cwt, down 6 percent from the 2000 crop, but up 3 percent from the 1999 crop. The decrease in sales was due to lower production and higher spoilage during the storage season. Sales accounted for 84 percent of production, down from 87 percent of the 2000 crop. Sales as a percent of production during the last 10 years have ranged from 89 percent for the 1998 crop to 80 percent from the 1996 crop. Low sales from the 1996 crop were due mainly to the 1997 spring flooding of potato storage bins and low prices.

**United States**

Fall potato production was finalized at 394 million cwt for 2001, down 16 percent from the record high crop of 2000. Area harvested in 2001 was estimated at 1.07 million acres, down 10 percent from a year earlier. The average yield, at 367 cwt per acre, was down 25 cwt from the record high a year ago. Final production of fall potatoes was 2 percent below both the Annual Crop Summary in January and the first forecast made in November 2001.

Value of all potatoes sold in 2001 was estimated at \$2.80 billion, up 19 percent from the previous year. The average price, at \$6.99 per cwt, jumped \$1.91 from a year earlier.

Sales from the 2001 potato crop totaled 401 million cwt, down 14 percent from 2000. Sales accounted for 92 percent of 2001 production. Non sales accounted for 36.6 million cwt, down 25 percent from the previous year. Over the past five years, 91 percent of the potatoes grown have been sold. The other 9 percent were either lost (shrinkage and loss) or used on farms where grown (seed, home use, and livestock feed).

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### POTATO PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION & INCOME

Disposition Items	Crop Year		
	1999	2000	2001
<b>NORTH DAKOTA</b>			
<b>PRODUCTION</b>	---- (1,000 Cwt) ----		
Total	26,400	26,950	26,400
<b>FARM DISPOSITION</b>			
Seed, Feed, etc. <sup>1/</sup>	340	295	320
Shrinkage and Loss	4,600	3,235	3,960
Sold	21,460	23,420	22,120
<b>VALUE</b>	---- (1,000 Dollars) ----		
Price/Cwt (Dollars)	5.60	5.45	6.00
Production	147,840	146,878	158,400
Sales	120,176	127,639	132,720
<b>UNITED STATES</b>			
<b>PRODUCTION</b>	---- (1,000 Cwt) ----		
Total	478,216	513,621	437,888
<b>FARM DISPOSITION</b>			
Seed, Feed, etc. <sup>1/</sup>	5,569	5,288	5,387
Shrinkage and Loss	35,531	43,688	31,208
Sold	437,116	464,645	401,293
<b>VALUE</b>	---- (1,000 Dollars) ----		
Price/Cwt (Dollars)	5.77	5.08	6.99
Production	2,745,712	2,591,091	3,057,573
Sales	2,522,286	2,360,135	2,804,830

<sup>1/</sup> Seed, feed and household use on farms where grown.

### POTATO DISPOSITION, UNITED STATES

Disposition Items	Crop Year		
	1999	2000	2001
---- (1,000 Cwt) ----			
<b>SALES</b>	437,116	464,645	401,293
<b>Table Stock</b>	134,130	139,146	122,020
<b>Processing</b>	274,551	287,886	250,663
Chips & Shoestrings	52,916	52,371	54,139
Dehydration	50,831	54,880	40,745
Frozen French Fries	140,196	146,869	126,711
Other Frozen Products	23,593	26,723	23,598
Canned Products	3,311	2,368	2,590
Other Canned Products <sup>1/</sup>	2,394	2,709	1,722
Starch, Flour & Other	1,310	1,966	1,158
<b>Other Sales</b>	28,435	37,613	28,610
Livestock Feed <sup>2/</sup>	3,141	10,096	3,496
Seed	25,294	23,353	25,114
Diversion (Other than Feed)		4,164	
<b>NON-SALES</b>	41,100	48,976	36,595
Seed	4,415	3,792	4,137
Household & Feed	1,154	1,496	1,250
Shrinkage & Loss	35,531	43,688	31,208
<b>TOTAL PRODUCTION</b>	478,216	513,621	437,888

<sup>1/</sup> Hash, stews and soups. <sup>2/</sup> Includes 6,872 thousand cwt sold for livestock feed under Government Diversion Program for 2000.

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